

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 DRC-01 /124 W

----- 074575

R 171055Z MAY 74 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7992

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 1335

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BM, IN

SUBJECT: NE WIN'S VISIT TO INDIA

REF: A. STATE 102601 B. RANGOON 1191

1. FACT IS, WE DON'T KNOW WHAT NE WIN SAID TO MME. GANDHI IN THEIR PRIVATE MEETING, BUT SHARE DEPARTMENT'S BELIEF THAT AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY'S ACCOUNT OF NE WIN'S VISIT TO DELHI SOUNDS EXAGGERATED. AS WE HAVE REPORTED REF B OUR SOURCES HERE INDICATE THAT SUBCONTINENTAL TREK WAS PRIMARILY A "PROTOCOL" MATTER.

2. WE HAVE NO REPEAT NO REASON TO THINK THAT BURMESE BELIEVE PRC-SPONSORED INSURGENCY HAS REACHED "CRITICAL STAGE." NOR DO WE THINK IT LIKELY THAT NE WIN TALKED ABOUT INSURGENCY (IF HE DISCUSSED IT AT ALL) IN SUCH ALARMING TERMS. THIS SUBJECT APPARENTLY DID NOT FIGURE PROMINENTLY IN DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN NE WIN AND WHITLAM DURING THE LATTER'S STATE VISIT (FEB 4-6), OR AT LEAST AUSTRALIAN SOURCES HERE DID NOT SO INDICATE. IF ANYTHING, THEY PLAYED DOWN INSURGENCY AS TOPIC OF TALKS. SINCE THEN THERE HAVE BEEN NO DEVELOPMENTS WITH THE BCP/PRC WHICH COULD EXPLAIN NE WIN'S SPEAKING IN SUCH TERMS AS REPORTED REF A.

3. MINISTER OF INDIAN EMBASSY HERE, SPEAKING AS THOUGH HE HAD BEEN BRIEFED FULLY BY HIS AMBASSADOR WHO ACCOMPANIED NE WIN TO
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NEW DELHI, TOLD DCM ONLY TODAY THAT AS FAR AS HE KNEW SUBSTANCE

OF NE WIN/MME. GHANDI TALKS WAS "LOFTY" AND
CONCEIVABLY CONCERNED WITH REGIONAL COOPERATION. AT SAME TIME, HE
ACKNOWLEDGED THAT A CONSIDERABLE PART OF NE WIN/MME. GANDHI'S
MEETING WAS PRIVATE AND THE CONTENT OF SUCH MEETING--IF CONTENT
THERE WERE--HAD NOT YET FILTERED DOWN TO HIS CONTACTS IN BURMA'S
MFA.
OSBORN

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NNN

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